Loss of revenue due to ticketless travelling

1296. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ticket less travelling is causing loss of revenue to Railways;

(b) whether Railways has identified vulnerable areas where ticket less travelling is rampant;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that there is no ticketless travelling in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU): (a) to (d) There is some leakage of railway revenue on account of ticketless/irregular travel. Vulnerable areas where ticketless travelling is rampant are being identified from time to time by the Railways.

Regular and surprise drives are conducted frequently to check ticketless/irregular travel in association with Police. Travelling public are educated through various media about the consequences of ticketless travel. In addition, some of the measures taken are as follows:

(i) Special checks are conducted in association with Police and Railway Magistrates.

(ii) Ambush Checks, Fortress Checks, Cross Country Checks Replacement Checks, etc. are conducted from time to time.

(iii) The minimum penalty for ticketless/irregular travel has been enhanced to Rs. 250/- from Rs. 50/- with effect from 01.07.2004.

Additional charges levied on passengers by Railways

†1297. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a passenger going to a particular destination by changing the train in between is charged fare by issuing fresh ticket to him instead to charging direct fare upto his place of destination and Rs. 50/- are charged extra from him at Reservation counter;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.